PUBLIC DEFENDER Gerald Farber

I. MISSION STATEMENT:

To breath life into the words above the entrance to the United States Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under Law. By doing so we help preserve our freedoms for everyone.

To achieve that vision, and serve our citizens, we must work to protect the legal rights of poor people charged with crime in San Bernardino County. We will do this by providing highly competent legal counsel and vigorous advocacy. By seeing that the poorest among us have their rights protected we will make this community a safer and better place to live for all its residents

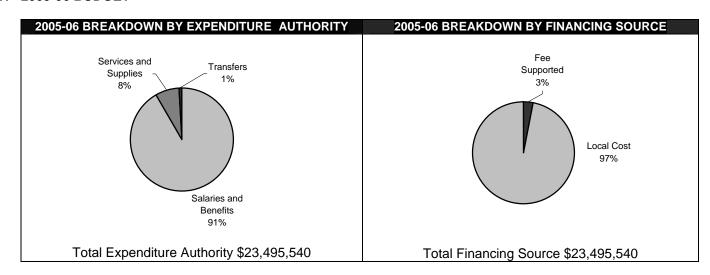
II. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



III. DESCRIPTION OF MAJOR SERVICES

We provide criminal defense services to over 47,000 clients annually in felony and misdemeanor matters in all adult and juvenile courts. These services include consultations, investigations, extensive pre-trial negotiations and/or conducting contested hearings, and jury or court trials. Our goal is early and favorable resolution of our client's case(s). We handle cases whose penalties range from simple fines to the death penalty. We have specialized units and handle capital cases, sexually violent offenders, mentally disturbed offenders, and gang cases. We staff several specialty courts, including "Drug Courts", mental health court, domestic violence court, and homeless court. These will be followed by a Petty Theft Diversion Program and juvenile drug courts, both for offenders and parents of dependent children. We also maintain a "writ and appeals" capability as a compliment to our main duties.

IV. 2005-06 BUDGET





V. GOALS & 2006-07 OBJECTIVES AT CURRENT FUNDING LEVELS

GOALS	2006-07 OBJECTIVES
Reduce backlog of old cases	 A. Increase early resolution of cases thus minimizing custody time (and its attendant costs to the client and to the county). B. Decrease active caseloads (by 10% or more) so lawyers can concentrate on the more difficult cases, thus improving the caliber of our representation, while at the same time increasing customer service.
Reduce personal conflicts between staff and clients.	 A. Institute regular and consistent training on customer service techniques. B. Reduce lag time in responding to phone calls and letters from clients. C. Increase supervisory intervention and counseling so as to reduce the number of "Marsden" motions (formal motions made by a client to "fire" us and get new counsel appointed. Such motions when granted increase costs and impede resolution of cases).
Increase training in all classifications and institute a new mentoring program to "train our successors".	 A. Utilize M.O.U. training funds to their practical limits. B. Expand in-house training hours. C. Supervisors shall actively train people deemed likely to be supervisors in the future by one on one and formalized supervisorial training programs.

The Public Defender is proposing these goals to make an immediate impact on customer service, and our ability to provide quality legal representation. Additionally, improvement in these areas will not require extensive additional staff or funding, although the goal of reducing backlogs may require some, and/or a realignment of assets, which may effect other areas. Sufficient funds are already budgeted for training, and combined with MOU allowances a comprehensive and targeted training program can be established. The benefits to our clients will include increased attorney client conferences, better flow of information, and better-prepared, confident attorneys and staff. These goals are achievable and measurable, giving management a valuable tool in identifying areas of operation that are working well, and areas where we need to make improvements.

VI. PERFORMANCE MEASURES AT CURRENT FUNDING LEVELS

OBJT.	MEASUREMENT	2006-07 (Projected)
1A.	Number of "old cases" (defined as more then 180 days in felonies and 120 days in misdemeanors)	10% Reduction
2C.	Marsden hearings.	10% Reduction
2D.	Motions denied.	20% Increase
3A.	Amount of MOU training funds expended this fiscal year vs. last fiscal year.	15% Increase.
3B.	Number of training hours provided this fiscal year vs. last fiscal year.	12 additional hours.

VII. GOALS & OBJECTIVES IF ADDITIONAL FUNDING (POLICY ITEMS/NEW FEES) IS APPROVED

GOALS	OBJECTIVES
Reduce the impact of increased case filings.	Faster resolution of cases can be achieved through additional staffing and preventing backlog, thus saving County funds.
	Positions Requested: 2 Deputy Public Defenders, 1 Investigator, 1 Investigative Tech.II.
	Additional Funding Requested: \$476,955
Free up attorney time for more trials, client conferences and court appearances.	Provide more direct clerical support for attorneys to reduce the amount of office work actually performed by the attorney. The additional staffing requested will fulfill that function.
	Positions Requested: 1 Supervising Office Assistant, 3 Office Assistant III, 1 Office Assistant II, 2 Interviewers, 1 Paralegal.
	Additional Funding Requested: \$417,985
Increase service response to public and Courts.	Meet demands of increased court appearances such as new drug courts, mental health courts, and new judicial appointments through additional staffing.
	Positions Requested: 4 Deputy Public Defender, 1 Social Service Practitioner.
	Additional Funding Requested: \$738,482

If there are questions about this business plan, please contact Gerald Farber, Interim Public Defender, at (909) 387-2400.

